

Year	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100
1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100	

What is claimed is:

1. A method for identifying a record with valid address information, but invalid name information, comprising:

obtaining a record containing a name and an address;

determining if the address is in a set of known addresses; and

if the address of the obtained record is determined to be in the set of known addresses, determining if the name of the obtained record is in a subset of known names associated with the address by calculating a weighted name value for the name and comparing the weighted name value with a predetermined threshold name value.

2. The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising if the address is determined to be in the set of known addresses and the name is determined to not be in the subset of known names associated with the address, marking the record as having valid address information, but invalid name information.

3. The method as claimed in claim 2, further comprising preventing information from being mailed to the address of the marked record.

4. The method as claimed in claim 2, further comprising removing the marked record from a database of records.

5. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein weighted name value is calculated using the formula:

$$WNV = (W1 \cdot V1) + (W2 \cdot V2) + \dots (W_n \cdot V_n)$$

where WNV is the weighted name value,  $W(1,...,n)$  is the weight assigned to components

5 of the name and  $V(1,...n)$  is a value assigned to components of the name.

1 6. The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein  $V(1,...n)$  is assigned a value of  
2 1 if the component matches a corresponding component of a name in the subset of known  
3 names and 0 if the component does not match the corresponding component of the name  
4 in the subset of known names.

1 7. The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the name is determined to not  
2 be in the subset of known names associated with the known address if the weighted name  
3 value is less than the threshold name value.

1 8. The method as claimed in claim 7, further comprising, if the address is  
2 determined to be in the set of known addresses and the name is determined to not be in  
3 the subset of known names associated with the known address, marking the record as  
4 having valid address information, but invalid name information.

1 9. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the step of determining if the  
2 address is in a set of known addresses comprises calculating a weighted address value for  
3 the address and comparing the weighted address value with a predetermined threshold  
4 address value.

1 10. The method as claimed in claim 9, wherein weighted address value is  
2 calculated using the formula:

3 
$$WAV = (W1 \cdot V1) + (W2 \cdot V2) + \dots (Wn \cdot Vn)$$

4 where WAV is the weighted address value,  $W(1,...n)$  is the weight assigned to  
5 components of the address and  $V(1,...n)$  is a value assigned to components of the  
6 address.

1 11. The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein  $V(1,...n)$  is assigned a value

2 of 1 if the component matches a corresponding component of an address in the set of  
3 known addresses, 0 if the component is not found in the set of known addresses and -1 if  
4 the component does not match the corresponding component of the address in the set of  
5 known addresses.

1 12. The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the obtained address is  
2 determined to be in the set of known addresses if the weighted address value for the  
3 address is less than a predetermined threshold address value.

1 13. The method as claimed in claim 12, further comprising, if the address is  
2 determined to be in the set of known addresses and the name is determined to not be in  
3 the subset of known names associated with the known address, marking the record as  
4 having valid address information, but invalid name information.

1 14. A method for identifying records with valid address information, but  
2 invalid name information, comprising:  
3 obtaining a record containing a name and an address;  
4 determining if the address is in a set of known addresses; and  
5 if the address of the obtained record is determined to be in the set of known  
6 addresses, determining if the name of the obtained record is in a subset of  
7 known names associated with the address using a heuristic.

1 15. The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the heuristic comprises  
2 calculating a weighted name value for the name and comparing the weighted name value  
3 with a predetermined threshold name value.

1 16. The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising if the address is  
2 determined to be in the set of known addresses and the name is determined to not be in  
3 the subset of known names associated with the address, marking the record as having  
4 valid address information, but invalid name information.

1 17. The method as claimed in claim 16, further comprising preventing  
2 information from being mailed to the address of the marked record.

1 18. The method as claimed in claim 16, further comprising removing the  
2 marked record from a database of records.

1 19. The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein weighted name value is  
2 calculated using the formula:

3 
$$WNV = (W1 \cdot V1) + (W2 \cdot V2) + \dots (Wn \cdot Vn)$$

4 where WNV is the weighted name value,  $W(1, \dots, n)$  is the weight assigned to components  
5 of the name and  $V(1, \dots, n)$  is a value assigned to components of the name.



4 the component does not match the corresponding component of the address in the set of  
5 known addresses.

1 26. The method as claimed in claim 24, wherein the obtained address is  
2 determined to be in the set of known addresses if the weighted address value for the  
3 address is less than a predetermined threshold address value.

1 27. The method as claimed in claim 24, further comprising, if the address is  
2 determined to be in the set of known addresses and the name is determined to not be in  
3 the subset of known names associated with the known address, marking the record as  
4 having valid address information, but invalid name information.

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1           33.    The system as claimed in claim 28, wherein the means for determining if  
2   the address is in a set of known addresses comprises means for calculating a weighted  
3   address value for the address and comparing the weighted address value with a  
4   predetermined threshold address value.

1           34.    The system as claimed in claim 33, wherein weighted address value is  
2   calculated using the formula:

3                                   
$$WAV = (W1 \cdot V1) + (W2 \cdot V2) + \dots (Wn \cdot Vn)$$

4   where WAV is the weighted address value,  $W(1, \dots, n)$  is the weight assigned to  
5   components of the address and  $V(1, \dots, n)$  is a value assigned to components of the  
6   address, wherein  $V(1, \dots, n)$  has a value of 1 if the component matches a corresponding  
7   component of an address in the set of known addresses, 0 if the component is not found  
8   in the set of known addresses and -1 if the component does not match the corresponding  
9   component of the address in the set of known addresses.



1           35.    A mail processing system, comprising:  
2    a computer; and  
3    at least one printer coupled to the computer, the at least one printer being capable of  
4       printing records comprised of names and an addresses to a mail media,  
5    wherein the system is suitable for identifying if a record with valid address but an invalid  
6       name by determining if the address is in a set of known addresses and, if the  
7       address of the record is determined to be in the set of known addresses,  
8       determining if the name of the record is in a subset of known names associated  
9       with the address by calculating a weighted name value for the name and  
10      comparing the weighted name value with a predetermined threshold name value.

1           36.    The mail processing system as claimed in claim 35, wherein the record is  
2    marked as having valid address information, but invalid name information if the address  
3    is determined to be in the set of known addresses and the name is determined to not be in  
4    the subset of known names associated with the address to prevent printing of the record.

1           37.    An information handling system, comprising:  
2    a computer; and  
3    at least storage device coupled to the computer, the at least one storage device being  
4           capable of storing records comprised of names and an addresses,  
5    wherein the system is suitable for identifying if a record with valid address but an invalid  
6           name by determining if the address is in a set of known addresses and, if the  
7           address of the record is determined to be in the set of known addresses,  
8           determining if the name of the record is in a subset of known names associated  
9           with the address by calculating a weighted name value for the name and  
10          comparing the weighted name value with a predetermined threshold name value.

1           38.    The information handling system as claimed in claim 37, wherein the  
2    record is marked as having valid address information, but invalid name information if the  
3    address is determined to be in the set of known addresses and the name is determined to  
4    not be in the subset of known names associated with the address.